You are scheduled for a Gastric Emptying Scan with oatmeal on _____________ at __________.

Please report to TC100 in Mitchell Hospital 20 minutes before your appointment time to register for the test.

ABOUT THE TEST
A Gastric Emptying Scan measures how well your stomach empties. A radioactive tracer is used for the test. The amount of radiation used in this test is small, and well within limits that are safe. The tracer will be mixed with oatmeal that you will eat as part of the test. You will be at the medical center for about 3 hours.

NOTE: Patients who are pregnant or may be pregnant should consult their physician before having this test.

PREPARATION FOR THE TEST
You should not have anything to eat or drink for at least 8 hours before the test. If you are diabetic, please bring your insulin with you and take it after you have eaten the radioactive oatmeal.

HOW IS THE TEST PERFORMED?
When you arrive in the Nuclear Medicine Department, a technologist will confirm your identity and ask you questions about your medical history. He/She will explain the test to you and answer any questions you may have. The technologist will prepare oatmeal mixed with the radioactive tracer for you to eat. You need to eat the oatmeal within 10 minutes. After you eat the oatmeal the technologist will ask you to lie on an imaging table and position a special camera over your stomach. He/She will take pictures of your stomach continuously for two hours. It is important to remain still during the test.

AFTER THE TEST
You may resume your normal activities and diet after the test. A Nuclear Medicine physician will interpret the exam and the results will be sent to the ordering physician. If you have any questions about the procedure or cannot keep the appointment, please call the Nuclear Medicine scheduling staff at 773-795-9723.